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SA 7(COMOR)/DDS&T

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7 April 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Photographic Coverage of South China with Particular Reference to Hainan Island

1. At the United States Intelligence Board this morning in connection with the Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance report on South China coverage, an unanswered question was raised with regard to Hainan Island. The following information is relevant to Hainan Island and the recent satellite activities over the entire South China area. 25X1

[redacted]

4. Mission 1018 which is now being read out obtained five passes over South China, none of which were over Hainan Island. NPIC has been requested to read out urgently the priority targets and to publish the results. Readout on lower priority targets will follow.

5. Specifically with regard to an alleged SAM site on Hainan Island the following is the status of our information from photography at this time:

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a. CIA/PID has at the request of DDS&T conducted a thorough study of selected areas of China including Hainan Island in order to assess the status of SA-2 deployment. Thus far CIA/PID has not discovered any SAMs on Hainan Island.

b. The interdepartmental unit at NPIC (PAG) has not to date indicated any area on Hainan Island as suspect for a SAM site.

c. At this time although there has been substantial coverage of the Island by useable photography up to November 1964, the entire area has not been covered recently enough by cloud-free photography to permit a positive statement that there is not a SAM site on Hainan Island.

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[redacted]

James Q. Reber
Chairman
Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

Copy 1 DCI
2 DDCI
3 ExSec/USIB
25X1 4 DDI
5 DDI [redacted]
6 DDS&T
7 AD/SA
8 Ch/PWG
9-12 SA(COMOR)/DDS&T

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